

# CHRIST DIED..BURIED..ROSE AGAIN

## 1 Cor 15:3-11

Corinth a Greek city. Greeks not believe in resurrection

Mocking attitude come into church

Issue: not sure about resurrection in general

Paul's point: If deny fact of general resurrection then deny fact of resurrection of Christ and own ultimate resurrection.

Proofs of resurrection of Christ

**I. Their Salvation** (vv. 1-2) The Gospel believed on.

**II. Fulfilled Prophecy** (vv. 3-4)

1 Cor. 15:3 *First of all*: among most important doctrines

*For our sins*: To pay our sin debt.

*According to the scriptures*. If Moses or Abraham or David ...then credibility *delivered unto you*: yielded up, entrusted a message that given to him.

Message: Christ died for our sins according to the OT scriptures

NT not in hands

Sacrificial system of the Jews centered around sin and Messiah.

Sin separates man from God.

Only thing that atone for their sins.... blood of Lamb.

The Lamb of God, the Messiah, would come to pay in full their sin debt.

Day of Atonement (Lev. 16).

I brought you authoritative and reliable, backed by evidence, teaching.

1 Cor. 15:4 Christ to Emmaus disciples Luke 24:25-27

Jews ask Jesus for a sign Matt. 12:39-40

Paul compares resurrection of Christ to "firstfruits." Lev. 23:9-14; 1 Cor 15:23; Isa. 53:4-8

Prophecy concerning burial: Isa. 53:9

Peter, on day of Pentecost: Psalm 16,

Paul before King Agrippa Acts 26: 22-23

Point to Jews: Don't be surprised by these things. Messiah intended and designed by Jehovah to die, be buried, and resurrected from dead.

**III. Eye Witnesses** (vv.5-11)

1 Cor. 15:5 Thomas Arnold of Oxford: ... *I know of no one fact in the history of mankind which is better proved by fuller evidence than the great sign that God has given us that Christ died and rose again from the dead.*

How know Jesus rose from dead? Individuals saw Him, talked with Him, touched Him.

*Cephas*: Peter. Private appearance

*The twelve:* Jesus knew they would be ones He used to establish His church... must have first hand knowledge of resurrected body to be reliable messengers ...

**1 Cor. 15:6** Most likely Galilee

All saw Him at same time so there no way hallucination or ploy

*Wiersbe:* ...one of the greatest witnesses of the resurrection was Paul himself, for as an unbeliever he was soundly convinced that Jesus was dead. The radical change in his life – a change which brought him persecution and suffering – is certainly evidence that the Lord had indeed been raised from the dead.

**1 Cor. 15:7 James:** half-brother of Jesus, wrote letter of James. Pastor of church in Jerusalem (Acts 15:13-21).

Power of resurrection brought James to saving faith.

*Apostles.* For 40 days (Acts 1:3) after resurrection and before ascension He made several appearances apostles.

**1 Cor. 15:8** On road to Damascus.

*Last of all.* Post resurrection...post ascension.

Not during 40 days when Christ made appearances to all others.

Christ appeared to him on different occasions (Acts 18:9-10; 23:11; cf. 2 Cor. 12:1-7).

*... born out of due time:* abortion, miscarriage, premature or untimely birth. Born without any hope of meeting Christ. Came too late to be one of the twelve.

*Mac:* Before his conversion, which coincided with his vision of the resurrected Lord, Paul was spiritually unformed, dead, and useless, a person to be scorned by God. Even when he was born it was wrong timing. Christ was gone. How could he be an apostle? Yet, by special divine provision, He appeared to me also, Paul testifies.

Paul knew who he was and who he wasn't.

**Resurrection of Christ affected him:**

1. Caused him to recognize his sin.
2. Changed his character.
3. Redirected his efforts.

**1 Cor. 15:9** Attitude of humility.

**1 Cor. 15:10** *Grace:* God's supernatural power and desire that He supernaturally bestows on those who are humble.

*...not in vain:* not without effect. I put it to work

*I laboured more abundantly ...* caused me to work harder than all other apostles.

*yet not I, but the grace ...* God's supernatural power working in and through me.

**1 Cor. 15:11** We all preach same message. It is not all about me.

## **So what?**

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Caused him to recognize his sin.

Changed his character.

Redirected his efforts.